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STATE FOR EUR/NCE, EUR/RPM

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/09/2017
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [KDEM](#) [RS](#)
SUBJECT: SLOVAKIA SEES EYE-TO-EYE WITH U.S. ON OSCE
ELECTION MONITORING

REF: STATE 153309

Classified By: Deputy Chief of Mission Lawrence R. Silverman for reasons 1.4 b and d.

11. (C) PolEcon Chief delivered reftel demarche to Katarina Zakova, Head of the MFA's OSCE Section, on November 9. Zakova confirmed that the GOS shares U.S. concerns about the Russian approach to the ODIHR observation mission. Zakova characterized the lack of response from the GOR to visa requests from the core advance team as particularly troubling, given the tight timeline. Zakova said that the Slovak OSCE delegation had not spoken with the Russians about the mission since the GOR issued the invitation on October 31, but that it would certainly do so in light of Russia's "unacceptable" demands.

VALLEE